

Special Meeting

**ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
510 E. FLORENCE BOULEVARD, CASA GRANDE, AZ 85122
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015**

A. Call to Order:

Chairman Benitez called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Debbie Benitez
Seprina Packard
Jeanette Rhodes
Gloria Smith
Stacey Seaman
Jonathan Voyce

The following member was absent:

Erica Herman

Also present:

Remilie S. Miller	City Clerk
Anna M. Valenzuela	Deputy City Clerk

B. Minutes:

None

C. Reports:

C.1 Update Regarding Prop 202 Funding from Tohono O'odham Nation for the Commission's Mini Grant Program

City Clerk Miller reported that the check for \$10,000 from Tohono O'odham Nation Prop 202 grant was received and deposited to the Commission's Art funds. Further, City Clerk Miller reported that she has announced the availability of funds for the 3rd and the 4th Rounds of the Commission's Mini Grant Program. The deadline for applicants to submit their proposal is January 19, 2016.

C.2 Report on Other Grant Opportunities

City Clerk Miller reported with the help of Mary Allen, City of Casa Grande Grant's Coordinator, she forwarded information regarding a grant opportunity through the National Endowment of the Arts.

City Clerk Miller reviewed to the Commission the Art Works Grant Guidelines and Timelines. City Clerk Miller suggested to the Commission to apply for a grant, the same project (Plenary Art Festival) submitted to Bloomberg grant opportunity the Commission applied for on December 14, 2014.

City Clerk Miller requested for Member Seaman to present to the Commission the Bloomberg proposal they prepared in 2014.

Member Seaman conveyed that the Bloomberg grant was a million dollar grant opportunity. The grant she wrote entailed that the Commission would hold an event every weekend for two months. The events would include every facet of the Arts displayed.

Member Seaman conveyed that the current grant opportunity is similar, but a scaled down version. The maximum award for the current grant opportunity is \$100,000.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the current grant opportunity indicates there are also matching funds available. City Clerk Miller announced that her goal is to inform the Commission of the opportunity in order to complete Step 1 of the grant process and for the Commission to begin planning for the 2017 project.

In response to Member Voyce, City Clerk Miller conveyed that the deadline for the financial and initial submission is February 18, 2016. Further, City Clerk Miller relayed that there is information for a Webinar regarding the grant opportunity included in the documents provided.

C.3 Update on the Arts & Humanities Commission Vacancies

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the terms of Chairman Benitez, Members Seaman and Herman have been expired since September 30, 2015. Applications were received for the vacancies and are currently being reviewed by Mayor Jackson, who will make his recommendations at the January 19, 2016 Council Meeting.

Member Seaman conveyed that since she is eligible for re-appointment she would like to serve another term on the Arts and Humanities Commission. Further, Member Seaman conveyed that she would submit her application for consideration as soon as possible.

D. Unfinished Business

D.1 Discussion on the Commission's 5th Annual Plein Air Painting Event Scheduled for February 13, 2016

City Clerk Miller relayed that at the last Commission's meeting, the date of February 13, 2016 was selected to conduct the Annual Plein Air Painting Event. Further, City Clerk Miller relayed that Deputy City Clerk Valenzuela has reserved the Casa Grande Women's Club for the event.

The Commission reviewed the guidelines and the following were discussed:

Registration:

All artists must register and have their canvas, panels or paper stamped prior to any completed work. (*No exceptions*). Registration will be set up from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Woman's Club, 407 N. Sacaton Street, Casa Grande, AZ 85122. ***Entry Registration fees will be required for: Adult = \$20.00 and Youth (under 18 years old) = \$10.00, payable to the City of Casa Grande (check, money order, cash).***

Member Voyce moved to keep the registration fee as \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for youth. Member Smith seconded the motion carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

Judging Process:

1. Paintings and a Signed contest entry form should be delivered to the judging site by 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, 2016. Late entries will not be accepted, so plan your return trip accordingly.
2. Each artist may submit no more than one (1) finished painting for the competition.
3. Finished painting submitted should be signed on the **back**.
4. The "Plein Air Stamp" provided at registration must be visible on the back of the painting at the time of submission.
5. Framing is an integral part of a finished painting. All paintings must be appropriately framed, mounted and securely wired for hanging during the judging process. ***We reserve the right to refuse any painting improperly framed or wired (i.e., no unframed wrapped canvases, stained mats, alligator hangers, etc.).***
6. Paintings must remain on display from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
7. All judging is final during the competition.
8. Judging results will be announced at 5:00 p.m.
9. There will be five (5) judges who will be community members who are able to judge impartially and fairly. They will consist of one (1) member from the Casa Grande Arts and Humanities Commission, one (1) member from the Casa Grande Art Association who is not entering the event, one (1) member from Central Arizona College, one (1) City Official and one (1) community member. This panel of judges will select both the adult and youth winners.

City Clerk Miller offered a correction to item #9 and it would be re-worded to read: *"One (1) member from the Casa Grande Art Association who is not participating in the competition"*.

City Clerk Miller asked the Commission if they had any suggestions for the Judges of the event. Further, City Clerk Miller conveyed that she will ask one of the Council Members if they would like to be a Judge for the event.

The Commission instructed the City Clerk to contact Yvonne Johnson to inquire about possible Judge Representatives from Central Arizona College.

Member Rhodes volunteered to be the Judge Representative from the Arts and Humanities Commission.

The Commission instructed the City Clerk to contact Marie McGregor from the Casa Grande Valley Fine Arts Association to serve as a Judge and Steve Wagoner to serve as a Judge from the general public.

Member Voyce volunteered to be the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Awards:

Vice-Chairman Packard moved to change the award amounts as listed below:

Award Categories	Prize Award for Adult	Prize Award for Youth (under 18 years)
Best of Show	\$500.00	\$100.00
Second Place	\$250.00	\$75.00
People's Choice	\$100.00	\$50.00

Member Voyce seconded the motion carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

Reception:

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the food budget for last year's event was set at \$400.00.

Member Voyce moved to authorize expenditure of \$450.00 for the reception. Vice-Chairman Packard seconded the motion carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

Member Seaman conveyed that she would make a flier with information regarding the event.

In response to Member Voyce, City Clerk Miller conveyed that she will have the event advertised on the City of Casa Grande Website, Facebook, Casa Grande's Channel 11, press release, and all other outlets available to the public. Further, City Clerk Miller conveyed that she would also send the information to the Casa Grande Schools Superintendents and teachers she has been in contact with.

D.2 Review and Discussion of the Commission's 2016 Annual Ten Minute Play Contest

City Clerk Miller conveyed that after today's meeting she would advertise the Notice of Ten-Minute Play contest.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the Ten-Minute Play guidelines as follows:

City Clerk Miller relayed that she would need the Commission to identify those who would be reviewing and judging the entries. The Commission at their last meeting selected February 1, 2016 as the deadline for entries to be submitted for the Ten-Minute Play.

Chairman Benitez moved that the Commission partner with BlackBox Foundation for the production of the Commission's 2016 Annual Ten Minute Play Contest. Member Voyce seconded the motion carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

City Clerk Miller relayed that the Commission will review the contract from BlackBox Foundation at the meeting of January 6, 2016.

It was the consensus of the Commission to keep the awards as follows: \$500.00 for the winner, \$100.00 for the audience favorite.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the Commission chose the date of April 2, 2016 to hold the production of the plays. Deputy City Clerk Valenzuela reserved the Women's Club for the event.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the documents (Submission Form, Title Page, and Playwright's Agreement) being used this year are the same documents utilized as last year with minor revisions. Listed below are the changes made:

- The first paragraph will say: "*Minors (children to age 17 years) must have signed parental consent*" on page two of the Playwright's Agreement.
- The date listed for the Finalist will be announced, and should be *February 10, 2016*.

Contest Guidelines and Rules:

Member Seaman suggested the following changes to reflect on the brochure and Playwright's Agreement:

- Each play may have no more than three characters and may have only one setting with minimal props and costumes.
- Plays with multiple setting and/or scene changes will be disqualified.

In response to Member Seaman, City Clerk Miller conveyed that she e-mail those requested changes to her for review as soon as possible.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that the Judging procedure, names and commitment can be discussed at the meeting of January 6, 2016.

E. New Business:

E.1 Review and Discussion of Nominations received for the 2015 Commission's Bravo Award Program

City Clerk Miller conveyed that there were five (5) names submitted for nomination for the Bravo Award.

City Clerk Miller suggested inviting all the nominees their guest, and the person who nominated them to the reception.

City Clerk Miller relayed that she would advise the Commission what their budget is in January for FY15/16 to plan the reception accordingly.

It was the consensus of the Commission to award a monetary amount and a gift.

Chairman Benitez moved that the Bravo Award be set at \$500.00. Vice-Chairman Packard seconded the motion and was carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

Member Voyce moved that the Bravo Award Reception be held at Bedillion's Cactus Garden. Member Smith seconded the motion and was carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

Member Seaman motioned that the Bravo Award Reception be held on May 7, 2016. Member Smith seconded the motion and was carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

City Clerk Miller conveyed that she would mail the nominee packets to the Commission December 30, 2015 with the names of the nominee's redacted.

City Clerk Miller reminded the Commission that they were not to discuss the information; discussion is scheduled for the meeting of January 6, 2016.

Member Seaman conveyed that she was happy that Chairman Benitez would be part of the Judging process.

It was the consensus of the Commission to invite past Commission Members who have worked on the Bravo Award.

F. Public Comments:

Chairman Benitez called for public comments, no comments were offered.

G. Adjournment:

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:33 p.m.

for Debbie

Debbie Benitez
Chairman